

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 163880

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT ANKARA 5535 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO GENEVA
DATED 12 JULY 1974:

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 5535

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TU

SUBJ: TURKISH OPIUM CONTROL PROBLEM

REF: GENEVA 4434

1. IN REGARD TO QUESTION OF SUGGESTIONS ON MANBY'S TERMS OF
REFERENCE (PARA 10, REFTTEL), WE BELIEVE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES
SHOULD GUIDE FORMULATION OF SYSTEM FOR CONTROLLING TURKISH
OPIUM PRODUCTION:

A. EVENTUAL ELIMINATION OF OPIUM PRODUCTION. TO THIS
END THE SYSTEM SHOULD:

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(1) OFFER NEGATIVE INCENTIVES FOR POPPY CULTIVATION.

- (2) INCLUDE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (SPECIFICALLY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT) OF REGION.
- (3) MAKE SURVEILLANCE A VERY EXPENSIVE BURDEN ON TURKEY.
- (4) AVOID RELIANCE ON BUILDING PROCESSING PLANTS IN TURKEY, WHICH WOULD PERPETUATE OPIUM PRODUCTION.

B. PREVENTION OF LEAKAGE INTO ILLICIT CHANNELS, TAKING 1972-74 FLOW OF ILLICIT HEROIN AS INITIAL STANDARD AND SEEKING PROGRESSIVE REDUCTION FROM THAT LEVEL.

2. ANY TURKISH CONTROL SYSTEM MUST START WITH 1971 OPIUM CONTROL LAW, WHICH IS CURRENT LEGAL BASIS FOR CONTROL. FOLLOWING APPROACHES TO DEVELOPMENT OF SYSTEM, WE BELIEVE, WOULD FIT WITHIN THAT LAW AND WOULD MEET OBJECTIVES LISTED ABOVE:

A. INCISION OF POPPY HEADS WOULD BE PROHIBITED. ALL PLANTS WOULD BE COLLECTED AND SHIPPED ABROAD FOR STRAW PROCESSING.

B. LICENSES WOULD BE ISSUED ONLY TO FARMERS IN CONTIGUOUS AREAS, WHICH WOULD BE EXTREMELY LIMITED. HIGH RATIO OF ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL TO PLANTED AREA WOULD BE SPECIFIED, AND AVAILABILITY OF SUCH PERSONNEL WOULD HELP DETERMINE MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE AREA. AT SOME STAGE, OPTION OF USE OF STATE FARMS COULD BE CONSIDERED. STATE FARMS WOULD PERMIT TIGHT CONTROL; HOWEVER, THEIR USE COULD BECOME SELF-PERPETUATING.

C. INTEGRATED ENFORCEMENT PLAN WOULD BE DEVELOPED, WITH JANDARMA AND AGRICULTURAL CONTROL TEAMS WORKING JOINTLY. ADEQUATE EQUIPMENT FOR BOTH AIR AND GROUND SURVEILLANCE WOULD BE ACQUIRED.

D. CENTRAL NARCOTICS BUREAU WOULD BE STRENGTHENED. POLICE STRIKE FORCE WOULD BE SET UP TO GET RID OF ESTABLISHED VIOLATORS AND WHOLESALE MANIPULATORS.

E. GOVERNMENT WOULD MAKE SERIOUS EFFORT TO
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ACCELERATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF POPPY-GROWING REGION.

F. CULTIVATION OF ALTERNATIVE CROPS WOULD BE SUBSIDIZED.

G. EFFECTIVENESS OF CONTROLS WOULD BE DETERMINED BY REPORTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES CONCERNING FLOW OF ILLICIT OPIUM PRODUCTS FROM TURKEY.

3. DIFFICULTY OF PERSUADING TURKEY TO CARRY THROUGH ON ALL
OR ANY OF THESE APPROACHES SHOULD NOT BE UNDERESTIMATED,
DESPITE RECENT HIGH-LEVEL STATEMENTS OF WILLINGNESS
TO CONSIDER OUTSIDE ADVICE ON CONTROLS. SPAIN UNQTE INGERSOLL

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